

January 17, 1996

and wreak havoc upon the process. And what happens every time is that there's a filibuster on the rule. And since rules are so boring to begin with, everybody gets tired, and it's very difficult to hold a majority together on any change, on any meaningful change in the rules. But I would ask you to think about the future and about a more orderly process because what's been asked for...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...in the main amendment is not in any way radical or absurd. It doesn't even make us as disciplined as other legislatures in the...in the United States. It just adds a measure of order so that we can focus on the important bills and so that we can get the important bills up in a meaningful and anticipated fashion. I think that's very important, that we work together as a body to decide what are the important bills and get them up, that the Executive Board is involved in that. And so I hope you will not bite on the Withem amendment. I know he offers it in good faith. I assume, and I'm sure he thinks it will add something, but we're near the end of this debate. There are two more amendments and then the motion to suspend the rules...

SENATOR COORDSEN: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and you can make your decision. I urge you not to tire.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Chambers, to speak to the Withem amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have always been opposed to taking from an introducer of a bill that person's bill. You can offer a kill motion, you can attempt to amend it, and any other of a number of things, any number of other things, but I'm not in favor of taking from that introducer the right to invoke certain rules relative to his or her bill. If you're going to do it here and let any member do it, let any member do it on cloture. Every place in the rules where we allow the principal introducer to do something, allow any member to do it, allow any member to move to withdraw any other person's bill on the theory that the will of the body is to be worked and if the body agrees that this bill should be